



Hachimitsu Scams
~sweeter than honey~

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SHIKAJIKA KAKUKAKU

5

AKIKO
HIGASHIMURA



KAKUKAKUSHIKAJIKA

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THAT I
COULDN'T
POSSIBLY
ACCEPT IT.

CAME AS
SUCH A
SHOCK
TO ME

THAT
CALL FROM
SENSEI
THAT NIGHT





LET ME
TALK TO YOU
ABOUT WHAT'S
GONNA HAPPEN
FROM NOW ON.

COULD YOU
COME BACK
HERE ONCE
FOR NOW?

HAAAAA.

THERE'S
STILL
MORE
THAN SIX
MONTHS
UNTIL
THEN!

SO IN
OTHER
WORDS,
YOU MEAN
IN MARCH,
RIGHT??
THAT'S NEXT
YEAR!

BUT THIS
YEAR'S
EXAMS...



I COULD
BARELY
SLEEP THAT
NIGHT.



YOU'RE
REALLY THE
ONLY ONE I'VE
TOLD ABOUT
THIS.

SO
PLEASE,

EVEN THOUGH
YOU MIGHT BE
BURN DRAIVING
MANGA, COME
BACK HERE TO
MINAZAKI ONCE.





THERE
ARE SOME
PEOPLE
WHO ARE
REALLY
SERIOUS
ABOUT
WANTING
TO DRAW.

I MEAN,
IN THAT
CLASS,

YOU
SHOULD
JUST
SHUT
THAT
CLASS
DOWN.



THEY
DON'T
LIKE
DOING
SPORTS.



THEY
DON'T LIKE
STUDYING.

I WAS
ONE OF
THEM, SO
I KNOW.



AND THEY
DON'T
WANT TO
DO WHAT
THEY
DON'T
LIKE.



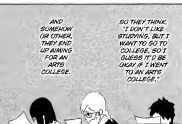


SO
WHILE THEY
CASUALLY
SCRIBBLE
STUFF LIKE
THAT IN THEIR
NOTEBOOKS
EVERY DAY,



AND THE
SOMEWHAT
STYLISH GIRLS
LIKE THE SORT OF
ILLUSTRATIONS
IN FASHION
MAGAZINES

THEY
LIKE
THINGS
LIKE
ANIME
AND
MANGA!



AND
SOMEHOW
OR OTHER,
THEY END
UP AIMING
FOR AN
ARTS
COLLEGE.

SO THEY THINK,
"I DON'T LIKE
STUDYING, BUT I
WANT TO GO TO
COLLEGE, SO I
GUESS IT'D BE
OKAY IF I WENT
TO AN ARTS
COLLEGE."



THEY GET
PASSED A
HANDOUT
ABOUT
DECIDING
ON THEIR
FUTURE.



BUT IN
THE END,
I STOPPED
PAINTING
AND WENT
TOWARDS
MANGA.

SO I
STARTED TO
UNDERSTAND
JUST A LITTLE
BIT ABOUT
WHAT IT
MEANT TO
"DRAW",

SENSEI
SERIOUSLY
DRILLED
ME EVERY
SINGLE DAY,

THAT'S
HOW IT
WAS FOR
ME.



I'M SURE
THAT NONE
OF THEM
ARE GOING
TO KEEP
PAINTING
FOREVER.

AND SOME
OF THEM
LUCKILY
GET INTO
AN ARTS
COLLEGE.

EVEN IF
YOU RISK
YOUR LIFE
TO TEACH
THOSE
KIDS HOW
TO DRAW
SKETCHES.

THAT'S
HOW IT IS,
SENSEI.

AND A
SOFTY.

YOU'RE
AN IDIOT,
SENSEI.

WHEN THEIR
ART ISN'T
GOING TO
SELL AND
THEY'RE NOT
GOING TO GET
FAMOUS.

NO ONE
COULD KEEP
DOING
SOMETHING
INTENSE
LIKE THAT

AND
BACK
THEN.

LOSE
BACK
THEN.

YOU'RE
ALWAYS
LIKE
THAT.





*WE'RE NOT
THE TYPE
OF PEOPLE
YOU THINK
WE ARE.*



*HOW CAN I
GET YOU TO
UNDERSTAND
THAT, SENSEI?*



OSAKA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

THE NEXT
MORNING,
I WENT TO
OSAKA'S
ITAMI
AIRPORT

AND GOT ON THE
FIRST FLIGHT TO
MOHAKO THAT
HAD A VACANCY



AND
OBBY,



I BROUGHT
ALONG THE
STORYBOARD
I HAD STARTED
ON FOR THE
300 PAGE
ONE-SHOT WITH
THE OPENING
COLOR PAGES.

AT
THE
VERY
LEAST,





SENSEI

ONLY OPENED
UP TO ME
ABOUT THE
CANCER...

I KEPT ON
FEELING MORE
AND MORE
SENTIMENTAL...



AS I
LOOKED OUT
THE AIRPLANE
WINDOW AT
THE CLOUDS
SPREAD OUT
IN THE SKY,



BY THE
TIME I
REACHED
NAGAZAKI
AIRPORT...

AND
SO,



SENSEI...



I'M THE
ONLY ONE
SENSEI
COULD
RELY ON...

I CAN'T
BELIEVE A
DAY WOULD
COME WHEN
SENSEI
WOULD ASK
ME FOR A
FAVOR...

AND HE
HELPED
ME GET
INTO
THAT
ARTS
COLLEGE
ON MY
FIRST
TRY!!

SENSEI'S
LOOKED
OUT FOR
ME ALL
THIS
TIME,

**I'LL
TAKE
OVER
THE
HIDAKA
CLASS
!!!!**

THOSE KINDS OF
FEELINGS WELLED UP
INSIDE ME AS I LOOKED
DOWN AT MIYAKAWA'S
OCEAN AND CITY FROM
THE AIRPLANE WINDOW

**I CAN
DRAW
MANGA
ANY-
WHERE!!**

YEAH,
NO
DOUBT
ABOUT
IT!

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
AKIKO
!??

SO TAKING
OVER THE
CLASS WOULD
BE MY WAY OF
REPAYING HIM!

SENSEI HAS
COME TO ME
LOOKING
FOR HELP,

AND
NOW THAT
SOMETHING
LIKE
THIS HAS
HAPPENED
TO HIM,

I'LL JUST
DRAW MANGA
AT HOME
WHILE I WORK
AT THE CLUBE
LIKE I DID
BACK THEN!!

MIYAKAWA



I JUMPED
IN A TAXI
AT THE
AIRPORT
AND
WENT
DIRECTLY
TO THE
CLASS.

YOU'RE
STILL THE
ONLY ONE
I'VE TOLD



THEY SAID
I HAVE
FOUR
MONTHS
LEFT.





HERE'S SOME TEA!



OH, HAYASHI!

THAT WAS FAST.



YEAH,

AND THEN I CALLED ALL OF THEM AFTER THAT.

THAT I WAS THE ONLY ONE YOU HAD TOLD.

SCHOOL... WAIT... YOU SAID.

THAT I ASKED TO COME HERE TODAY ON SHORT NOTICE.

ALL OF THEM ARE MY OLD STUDENTS

OK, SENSEI, WHAT'S GOING ON?



SORRY FOR MAKING YOU SO OUT OF YOUR WAY TODAY!

GUYS!

ALL RIGHT! TAKE A SEAT OVER THERE!



I'M GONNA
BE SOON!

WELL,
LIKE I
TOLD ALL
OF YOU



SENSEI?
WAS STILL
SENSEI,
AFTER ALL.



I WANT TO
ORGANIZE MY
PIECES WHILE I
CAN STILL MOVE
AROUND, SO
HELP ME OUT!



HUH?
IT?

ASSIGN
EACH OF
THEM A
NUMBER
AND MAKE
A LIST OF
MY PIECES!

WHA-
SHU!

THEN TAKE
ALL OF
THOSE
HUGE
PANTHES
OVER
THERE!

ALL
RIGHT
!!



WHO SAYS
NOT TO WORRY
IF THEY'RE
GOING
DEAD?

NO,
IT'S
O.K.,

SO DON'T
WORRY,
I'M
GONNA
DIE!

THE DOCTOR
SAID IT WAS
ALREADY
TOO LATE,



KNOW
WHAT
I'VE
YOU
SAID
IT?
DON'T
SAY
SOME-
THING
SO
OVI-
ROUS!

THAT TO MAKE IT
EASIER TO DO A
RETROSPECTIVE
EXHIBITION AFTER
I'M DEAD.



I'M GONNA
LIVE HERE
THE WHOLE
TIME.

I'M NOT
GETTING
HOSPITALIZED
OR GETTING
MY
SURGERY,
ETCETERA.

HEART?



FORGET ABOUT
STUFF LIKE THIS AND
HURRY UP AND MAKE
PREPARATIONS TO
GET HOSPITALIZED
SO YOU CAN GET
SURGERY OR
SOMETHING!

I'M NOT
GOING
TO THE
HOSPITAL.

BESIDES, WHEN
ARE YOU GETTING
ADMITTED?
TOMORROW? THE
DAY AFTER?



WHAT
SHOULD
WE DO
WITH THESE
GERMANS?

SENSE!

ONE
SECOND!



SO I HAVE
TO SET UP
AN AREA IN
MY BEDROOM
WHERE I CAN
PAINT RIGHT
UP TO THE
END...

I DON'T
HAVE ANY
TIME LEFT.

UM...
WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?

THERE!

You think
of this,
Sawada!

There
are so
many of
these!

ALL OF THEM
SILENTLY TOOK
SENDAI'S
DIRECTIONS
AND HELPED
ORGANIZE THE
ART PIECES.

ALL OF HIS FORMER
STUDENTS THAT CAME THAT
DAY WERE ALL WELL INTO
ADULTHOOD, SO I GUESS
THEY WERE WELL AWARE OF
MIDAKA-SENDAI'S TENDENCY
NOT TO LISTEN ONCE HE'S
BROUGHT SOMETHING UP.

NOW
THAT I
THINK
ABOUT
IT,

I GOT
ANOTHER
OFFER FOR A
ONE-SHOT
THE OTHER
DAY, SO...

ARE
YEAH...

HELP
IT

YOU GOT
A LOT OF
MONEY
FROM
DRAWING
MURDER,
RIGHT?

HOW ABOUT
ARE YOU
GETTING FOR
DOING IT?

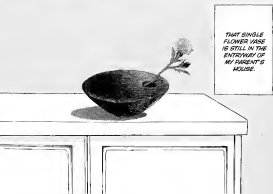
WAAA-
SHU!

WELL...
ABOUT
200,000 YEN.
I GUESS?

UM...

THEN
BUY
THIS!

ALL
RIGHT!



AND WHEN
IT DOESN'T
HAVE A
FLOWER,
IT'S JUST
THERE AS IS.



IN THE
WINTER,
IT HAS A
CAMELLIA
FROM THE
GARDEN.



THROUGH
THE RAINY
SEASON,
IT HAS A
HYDRANGEA.



IT'S SO
SWEET
OF YOU TO
COME IN
THIS WAY!



Good-bye!



I NOW
UNDERSTAND
THAT IT IS NOT
LIKE THAT'S
WHAT SENDEI
HAD WANTED.

BUT,



IN THIS WAY,
THE ART PIECES
SENDEI MADE
BECAME A PART
OF OUR DAILY
LIVES.





RIGHT,
SEN-
SEI?

BUT YOU
DON'T
NEED
STUFF
LIKE
THAT,



THAT'S
SOMETHING
SENTIMENTAL
TACKED ON
AFTER THE
FACT,



AND KEEP
MAKING
ART
PIECES,

YOU
WOULD
JUST
KEEP
DRAWING,

DOING
NOTHING
BUT THAT
THE WHOLE
TIME,



UNTIL
YOUR
DEATH.

KA
KU
KAKU

SAKAKI YUKA

30





BUT
GENGEI
WAS
STILL THE
SAME AS
ALWAYS.

I JUMPED
ON A PLANE
RIGHT AWAY
AND FLEW
BACK TO
MAGAZAKI.

AFTER GENGEI
CALLED TO
TELL ME THEY
HAD FOUND
GENGEI IN HIS
CLUNG, AND
THAT HE HAD
SOME MONTHS
LEFT TO LIVE.



AFTERWARD,
HE TALKED
ABOUT WHAT
WAS GOING
TO HAPPEN
WITH THE
CLASS FROM
NOW ON.



WE ORGANIZED
THE ART PIECES
WITH SEVERAL OF
GENGEI'S OLD
STUDENTS HE HAD
CALLED, AND I'M
SURE WE MADE
A LIST...



GENGEI WAS
INSISTENT
ABOUT
NOT STOPPING
THE CLASS
UNTIL AFTER
THE EXAMS
AND ENDS!



I HAVE MORE
STUDENTS NOW,
AND SEVEN OF
THEM ARE TAKING
EXAMS THIS YEAR.

I'M GOING
CONTINUE
WITH THE
CLASS.



AND IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, WE CAN GET SOMETHING UP SO THAT WE CAN WORK TOGETHER ON IT...

IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE TO DECIDE ON WHAT TO DO RIGHT AWAY. STAY TOMORROW OR THE DAY AFTER.

WELL, AT ANY RATE,

GOOD POINT...



AND WELL, THE FEELING IN THE ROOM WAS THAT WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ALLOW OURSELVES TO DO WHAT WE WANTED IN THE END.

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, WE DIDN'T REACH ANY COMMON GROUND WITH THAT DECISION.



HAYA-SHI!

AND SO FOR THE TIME BEING, WE CALLED IT SETTLE FOR THE DAY.



THEN WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, TAKE A LOOK AT THE EXAM STUDENTS' SKETCHES!

ALL RIGHT!

I'LL COME BY YOUR ROOM TO KEEP MAKING THE LIST...

ALL

OKAY.

OKAY...



CAN YOU COME HERE AGAIN TOMORROW?

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO BE HERE?



I THOUGHT HIM
HAVING LUNG
CANCER MEANT
HE'D BE
COUGHING THE
WHOLE TIME...

AND HE
WASN'T
COUGHING
AT ALL,
EITHER...

THAT
SENSEI'S
SO LIVELY...

...FOR
NOW, I'M
GLAD...



GOING TO
DIE...IF HE'S
LIKE THAT?

HE HE
REALLY...



THIS IS ABOUT
SENSEI, SO
ISN'T HE STILL
TOTALLY FINE?

ISN'T HE
GOING TO
BE OKAY?

WOULDN'T
HE ONLY
HAVE FOUR
MONTHS LEFT
TO LIVE...
IN THE
ABSOLUTE
WORST CASE
SCENARIO?



I'M NOT
GOING
TO THE
HOSPITAL.

WHAT THE
DOCTOR SAID IS
THE WORST CASE
SCENARIO, NO
THAT DOESN'T
MEAN THAT'S
DEFINITELY...

THAT'S
RIGHT FOUR
MONTHS IS
BASICALLY...

YEAH!



WHY HE'D
STAY AT HOME
INSTEAD OF
GOING TO THE
HOSPITAL...

I CAN'T
UNDER-
STAND...



HOW'S IT
GOING? ARE
YOU DONE WITH
THE 100-PAGE
BOOKCHANGE?

HA,
HELLO,
THIS IS
A-O-KA.



Ring
Ring
Ring



Ring
Ring
Ring
Ring

IS HE GOING
TO STAY HOME
THE WHOLE
TIME AND
PAINT...?





There's no way I can tell him I went back home to Miyazaki.





BUT NEVER-
THELESS...

THAT'S
RIGHT.
YOU COULD
SAY THAT
I'M JUST
SHIFTING
THE BLAME
AWAY FROM
MYSELF.

FOR SOME
REASON,
YOU CAN'T
DRAW MANGA
WHEN YOU'RE
AT YOUR
PARENTS'
HOUSE.

IF YOU'RE
SOMEONE
WHO'S LEFT
HOME AND
NOW HAS
YOUR OWN
"WORKPLACE".

MANGA
AUTHORS
CAN
RELATE
TO THIS!



HE'S OUT
DONNY!

YOU
SURE ARE
WORKING
HARD AT
IT...

I'M
WORKING ON
SOME MANGA
RIGHT NOW.

YEAH,
I'LL DO IT
LATER.

I PLANTED
A BITTER
ORANGE TREE
IN THE YARD
TWO OTHER
DAYS, SO COULD
YOU COME
TAKE A LOOK
AT IT?

IT LOOKS
PRETTY
NICE...



THE
NEIGHBORS
SAVE US
SOME RED
BEAN RICE
CAKES!
GO THANK
THEM!

AKI-
CHANI!

HONEY,
SOME-
ONE'S
AT THE
DOOR!

I
HEAR
YOU!

Ding
dong

YAS-CHAN
(H+ GUN+
H+H+H)
AND I WOULD
DRAW (MOUNT)
KIRIKIRIMA
TOGETHER
IN OUR
GRETCH-
BOOKS...

IT MUST BE
BECAUSE OF MY
GENES! I STARTED
TO LIKE TO DRAW
WHEN I WAS A
KID, AFTER ALL!

TALK
TALK

TALK
TALK

OH
WOW!
I LOVE
THOSE!







AFTER I
SAW GENSEI
DISAPPEAR OF
BRING BACK OR
ANYTHING,

AFTER
I SAW
GENSEI
LOOKING
THE
SAME AS
ALWAYS,

BUT,



WOULDN'T
HE BE
GONE?

EVEN IF
I'M NOT
THERE,

ALL I
HAVE
ABOUT
THE PLOT
AT THIS
STAGE IS THE
SETTING
AND THE
CHAR-
ACTERS.

AND I
HAVEN'T
EVEN
DECIDED
ON HOW
IT'LL END.

THE STORY
AASN'T
COME
TOGETHER
AT ALL.

THIS IS
INTENSE,
AFTER
ALL.

I
MEAN,

THERE'S
100
PAGES.





IN THE END, I
JUST WANT TO
CONCENTRATE
ON THIS
RIGHT NOW.

BUT THAT'S
THINKING TO
IS YEARS OF
EXPERIENCE
AND THE HELP
OF A LARGE
NUMBER OF STAFF
MEMBERS.



NOWADAYS, I
THINK NOTHING
OF DRAWING
100 PAGES IN
TOTAL EVERY
MONTH.

SO IN
OTHER
WORDS,

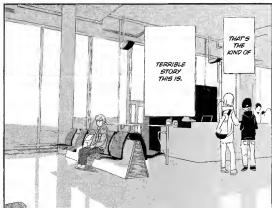
WHAT I'M
TRYING
TO SAY
IS,

IN TRUTH,
I HAVEN'T
DONE A
100-PAGE
OPENING
CHAPTER
EVEN ONCE
SINCE
THEN.

AND EVEN
AS I AM NOW,
I'D BE UNDER
QUITE A LOT OF
PRESSURE IF
SOMEONE TOLD
ME TO DRAW
A 100-PAGE
ONE-SHOT.

WELL, IT'S NOT
LIKE I CAN
REALLY BLAME
MY OLD SELF
ALL THAT MUCH.





MAYBE I
DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING AND
JUST GOT ON
THE PLANE.

I CAN'T
REMEMBER
AT ALL WHAT I
SAID TO GENSEI
BEFORE I WENT
BACK TO OSAKA.

FOR SOME
REASON,
I DON'T
REMEMBER
WHAT HAPPENED
BACK THEN.

AFTER
QUITE
A LOT OF
THAT WAS
REJECTED.

THEN I COPIED
THE STORYBOARD
AND SENT IT TO
THE EDITING
DEPARTMENT
IN TOKYO.

IS THAT I
WENT BACK TO
OSAKA AFTER
THAT AND DREW
THE 100-PAGE
STORYBOARD
ALL AT ONCE.

WHAT I DO
REMEMBER



AND SO I
DIDN'T HAVE
ANY TIME TO
THINK ABOUT
GENSEI
ANYMORE.

THE
DEADLINE
CAME UP
BEFORE I
KNEW IT,

COPIED
IT AND
SENT IT
AGAIN,
I
DESPERATELY
FIXED IT,

AND
WHILE
I WAS
DOING
ALL THAT
STUFF,





BEHINDER, I'VE NEVER RELIED ON ASSISTANTS BEFORE, SO I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT DIRECTIONS TO EVEN GIVE THEM!

AND I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY, SO I CAN'T CALL UP ANY ASSISTANTS!

IT'S JUST THE WAY YOU WORK, MASTER! HAHA!

IT JUST NEVER ENDS!!

WEE-HAM! WEE! NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU DREAM, IT HAVES ENDS, RIGHT?

ADD IN TONES

ADD IN BACKGROUND AND EXTRAS

DRAW THE CHARACTER BACKGROUNDS AND DO THE PEN TRACING.

BY THE WAY, NOW... DRAW!

EXTRA - ALARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE BACKGROUND

ALL THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF COURSE, AND THE BACKGROUND, EXTRAS, AND EVERYTHING!!

I HAVE TO DRAW IT ALL BY MYSELF!!

IF BACKGROUND GETS DONE.

During this time I work on the...

During this time I work on the...

Good work!

The response is not all work on...

LEADER

AND YET, THIS
PERSON DID
IT ALL BY
HIMSELF

A SOLO CONCERT IN THE HEIGHT OF CRUNCH TIME

Even so, this is a really good book for owners of the industry.

100

**THE
TAMM
LAW
TRUST**

SO IF YOU W
FIVE US...
WOULDN'T
IT TAKE...
ABOUT A
YEAR...?

HOW LONG DO YOU
THINK IT'D TAKE
EVERYONE HERE
TO DO A 100-PAGE
ONE-SHOOT?

1997

WILL
100
PAGES IS
QUALITY
ATTITUDE

AND SO, FOR ABOUT
A MONTH, I STAYED
COOPED UP IN THAT
ONE-ROOM APARTMENT
EVERY DAY WITHOUT
EVEN GOING OUTSIDE,
AND CONTINUED TO DRAW
IN A CYCLE OF STAY UP
ALL NIGHT—NAP—STAY
UP ALL NIGHT—CLIP
NOODLES—NAP—CLIP
NOODLES.

Today, I
would want
you to be
stronger, on
my own



WHEN
I THINK
ABOUT IT
NOW, IT
SEEMS LIKE
EASYSTREET
ALL OVER.

EVER
AFTER
REVIEWING
MUSIC FOR
A FEW
DAYS,
FOUND A
100-PAGE
CHAPTER AS
NO MORE
THAT I
WOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO
DO IT.

100



BUT THE ONE THING I REMEMBER CLEARLY IS THE SUPER THICK AND HEAVY ENVELOPE HOLDING MY 100-PAGE MANUSCRIPT.

MY MEMORIES FROM THAT TIME ARE STILL PRETTY VAGUE.

SHO-OSAKA.

BULLET
HIT THE
TRAIN.



AND IF I FEEL LIKE IT, I SKIP THE STORYBOARD AND JUST SUDDENLY START DRAWING THE DRAFT.

JUST BEFORE THE DEADLINE, INCLUDING EVEN THE DAY BEFORE, I DRAW UP THE STORYBOARD ALL AT ONCE IN ABOUT TWO HOURS.

BUT I USUALLY TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT THIS SERIES AT ALL.

IT'S ALREADY BEEN 2 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS SINCE I STARTED DRAWING "KAKUKEKI SAKAMOTO".



AND I
RELUCTANTLY
FACE MYSELF
FROM BACK
THEN.

I CRACK
OPEN UP THE
DRAWER WITH
THE MEMORIES
I'VE FORCIBLY
SHUT AWAY,

OR
RATHER,

I FINALLY
REMEMBER
WHAT
HAPPENED
BACK THEN,

AFTER
SITTING
DOWN TO
DRAW IT
EVERY
MONTH,



TO PUT IT
SIMPLY, I
ESSENTIALLY
ABANDONED
SENSEI.



NOW THAT I
THINK ABOUT IT,
I SHOULD
HAVE STAYED
WITH YOU THE
WHOLE TIME

AND
HELPED
YOU OUT,
SENSEI.

I'M
SORRY,
SENSEI.

SENSEI,



I SHOULD
HAVE LOOKED
AFTER THE
STUDENTS
FOR THOSE
FEW MONTHS
UNTIL THEIR
ARTS COLLEGE
EXAMS WERE
OVER.

SO AS
TO GIVE
YOU EVEN
ONE MORE
MINUTE
LONGER
TO PAINT.

IN THE
LITTLE
TIME
YOU
HAD
LEFT,

I WAS IN
A HURRY
BACK
THEN.

EVEN THOUGH
YOU CAN GET
PUBLISHED IN
THIS WORLD
AS LONG AS
YOU DRAW
A GOOD
STORYBOARD,
REGARDLESS
OF ANY
TIME TAKEN
OFF FROM
DRAWING.

IF I
HAD JUST
WORKED
HARD AGAIN
AFTER THAT,
EVEN
THOUGH I
COULD HAVE
HAD ANY
NUMBER OF
CHANCES TO
RECOVER.

EVEN
IF I HAD
TAKEN
ONE
YEAR
OFF
FROM
MANGA
TO DO
THAT.

FOR
EXAMPLE,
WHEN I
WENT BACK
TO MIYAZAKI
AND HELPED
OUT WITH
THE CLASS
BACK THEN.



I WANT
MONEY.

I
WANT
TO BE
THE
BEST.

I DON'T
WANT
TO FALL
BEHIND
NEW
AUTHORS
FROM MY
GENERA-
TION.

I
WANT
TO BE
FAMOUS.

I
WANT
MY
WORK
TO
SELL.

HURRY.

HURRY.

I WAS A
GREEDY
PERSON
WHO ONLY
THOUGHT
ABOUT
MYSELF.



I'M
SORRY,
SENSEI.

I RAN
AWAY AND
ABANDONED
YOU, SENSEI.



EVEN
THOUGH I
KNEW YOU
ONLY HAD A
LITTLE BIT OF
TIME LEFT,



THAT'S
SOMETHING
HUMAN
GARBAGE
WOULD DO.

I'M
SORRY.



I'M
SORRY,
BENSEI.





AND
WENT
BACK TO
CHANG.

BUT I RAN
AWAY FROM
TAKING
OVER THE
ART CLASS.

YOU
COULD
SAY IT
WAS COOL
OF ME TO
CHOOSE
MANGA.



I SPENT
EVERY DAY
AFTER THAT
JUST DEAD SET
ON DRAWING
MANGA.



AND
KEPT
DRAW-
ING,

AND
DREW,

I JUST
DREW,

AS IF TO
CONVINCE
MYSELF THAT I
WASN'T DOING
ANYTHING
WRONG.



AS IF
TO PUSH
THOUGHTS
OF SENSEI
OUT OF MY
HEAD.



MEI-
CHAN,

AND IN
THE MIDDLE
OF ALL
THAT, THE
SEASONS
CHANGED...

AT ANY RATE, I
STAYED COOPED
UP IN THAT
ONE-ROOM
APARTMENT
DRAWING
MONGA
EVERY DAY,

WAS I IN
A HURRY TO
HAVE IT SET
IN STONE, SO
TO SPEAK?

NOW
THAT I
THINK
ABOUT IT,



HMM?

REALLY
IF?

I'M GOING
TO BE
WORKING IN
OSAKA...



BUT
STILL...

INCREDIBLY,
AFTER
GRADUATING
FROM COLLEGE
TWO YEARS
AFTER ME,
MEIKUNO-KUN
STARTED
WORKING IN
OSAKA!!

I'LL MOVE
OUT OF
THIS PLACE
AND RENT
SOME-
WHERE
BIGGER!!

THEN WE
CAN LIVE
TOGETHER
OVER
HERE!

Without
telling my
parents, of
course!





It was 200 yen for 2 bedrooms, and a medieval kitchen/teating area. 2,000 yen for a lot larger with an extra living room and kitchen with the kitchen/teating area.





WE WENT DOWN THE
ROAD ALONGSIDE
THE FOOD RIVER
EVERY SINGLE DAY.



I WAS
OVERJOYED.

AND I WAS SO
HAPPY THAT I
COULD BE WITH
MY BOYFRIEND
AGAIN LIKE
WHEN WE WERE
AT SCHOOL
AFTER BEING
APART FOR
SO LONG.



I
DIDN'T
THINK
ABOUT
SENSEI.

BUT EVEN
WHEN I
LOOKED AT
THAT RIVER
WHICH LOOKED
JUST LIKE THE
OXFORD RIVER
IN AFRICA.

Tl note: Riko & Tsumasa were a super duo made up of Riko Fueno and Tsumasa Zensho.



I followed
the recipe
in a book
written by
someone
from Hubs
& I succeeded!

I WANTED
TO TRY
MAKING A
PIZZA TODAY,
SO I MADE
SOME PIZZA
DOUGH ALL
BY MYSELF!

LOOK
!!

IT WAS
PRETTY
SIMPLE!
DOESN'T
IT LOOK
STORE-
BOUGHT??

Covered in flour



I MADE
PANCAKES
FOR
BREAK-
FAST!!

WHA-
MURA-
KAMI!!

I have
ID card
more to
cook!!



I
COOKED
EVERY
SINGLE
DAY.

USING THE
WIDE RANGE
OF KITCHEN
TOOLS I
BOUGHT WHILE
FEELING LIKE
I'VE REACHED
HIGHLIGHTS.



IF THEY
DON'T
HAVE
ANY RICE,
THEN
LET THEM
EAT RICE
CAKES!



THE
FRESH
BENT
WILL NOT
HOLD

LET'S
ALONG
THE
FRESH
COUNTRY
COUNTRY

1. **Introduction**
 2. **Background**
 3. **Methodology**
 4. **Results**
 5. **Conclusion**

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LET'S
ALL PLAY
RICH MAN
POOR
MAN
MONEY!

11. Land Use Management in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

AND IN MY
ADULT LIFE, TO
LOOK BACK AT
MYSELF FROM
THE PAST AND
THINK ABOUT
MYSELF
THAT'S



Always
That
Time

...IN THAT WAY,
MY NEW FESTIVE
LIFESTYLE
OF SPENDING
EVERY DAY
IN RALCOUS
EXCITEMENT
CONTINUED.

HOW CAN I
 FIND OUT
 ABOUT
 THE SERVICE?

FOUR
CLUSTERS
REVEALED

2024
 2023
 2022
 2021
 2020

HOLD FAST
 THESE WHEN
 I THINK
 ABOUT DEATH

2007

100-1000

SO I'M
SURE I ONLY
THOUGHT
ABOUT STUFF
LIKE THAT.

OR GO
OUT TO A
KARAOKE
BAR WITH
TAKUMI
AND SA.

AFTER I GOT
DONE WITH
A MANGA
DEADLINE, I DID
STUFF LIKE
GO OUT TO EAT
YAKITORI WITH
NISHIKUBA AND

BACK
THEN,

WONDERING
IF HE WAS
IN PAIN.

LIKE
WONDERING
WHAT WAS
GOING ON
WITH SENJEL.

NOW
THAT I
THINK
ABOUT
IT,
IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN
ONE THING
IF I HAD
TRIED NOT
TO THINK
ABOUT
CERTAIN
THINGS.

THEN
I'M
TRULY

BUT IF I
REALLY
DON'T
THINK
ABOUT ANY
OF THAT.

OR THINKING
THAT HE
PROBABLY
FELT WORRIED
EVERY DAY.

AKIKO!

YOU'RE
GOING
BACK
HOME FOR
THE BON
FESTIVAL,
RIGHT?

In Okinawa
I GOT
A CALL
FROM MY
PARENTS
ORDERING
ME TO GO
HOME.

HOWEVER,
ONE DAY
WHILE
I WAS
CARRYING
ON LIKE
THAT IN
OSAKA,

THE LOWEST
OF THE LOW,
AND I CAN'T
EVEN BEGIN
TO APOLOGIZE
TO SENJEL.





IT'S BEEN
A WHILE,
HAYASHI.



HEY,



I'LL GO
BUY SOME
FISH.

COME IN
AND GRAB
A BOWL.

YEAH.



...HMM
...

YOU...
LOOK
GOOD,

SENDEL.

AND I HEARD
THAT THEY
HELPED SENDEL
OUT WITH
VARIOUS THINGS
THROUGH HIS
ILLNESS WHILE
THEY DREW.

BUT THERE
WERE STILL
SEVERAL
OTHER
STUDENTS
IN THE
CLASS,

BY THAT
TIME, HE HAD
FINISHED
TEACHING
THE LAST OF
THE EXAM
STUDENTS.

SENDEL
LOOKED
HEALTHY.

EVEN THOUGH
THE FOUR
MONTH TIME
LIMIT SET BY
THE DOCTOR
HAD LONG
SINCE PASSED.







HA
RIGHT, I'M
SORRY...

REMEM-
BER IT
ALREADY!

IT'S
O%▲☆
IT

WHO
WAS IT
ABOUT?

THAT'S
GREAT! YOU
USED THAT
ONE SPANISH
ARTIST,
AFTER ALL...

HA,
REALLY?

HE SAID HE'S GONNA
COME BACK HERE FOR
A LITTLE BIT, SO I
ASKED HIM TO PICK ME
UP SOME ART BOOKS.

The sorry I don't remember...



COME TO
THINK OF IT,
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT
HAPPENED
BEFORE,
TOO.

YOU'RE STILL
SAYING THAT
AFTER ALL
THIS TIME?

WHEN HE
CAME WITH
THE ART
BOOKS, I'M
GONNA MAKE
HIM SWEAT
OUT THE
MONEY!

AND I CAN'T DIE
UNTIL I GET HIM
TO PAY ME THAT
1.5 MILLION YEN!



THEY
DON'T
SELL THEM
IN JAPAN!
BUT THEY
SHOULD BE
IN ITALIAN
BOOK-
STORES!

WHAT?
ALL OF
THESE?

BUY THESE ART
BOOKS FOR ME
WHEN YOU'RE
OVER THERE!
I'LL PAY FOR
THEM!

AND
AT
THAT
TIME...

IN MY
THIRD
YEAR OF
COLLEGE,
I WENT TO
ITALY ON A
STUDY TOUR.

WHEN
I WAS

JUST
BUY
THEM
!!!

- 1.5 million yen
- 1.5 million yen
- 1.5 million yen
- 1.5 million yen
- 1.5 million yen
- 1.5 million yen



THE FIRST
MANGA I DREW
ABOUT MY SON
WAS LIKE
CRAZY FOR
SOME REASON.



SEVERAL
YEARS
AFTER
THAT,

IN THE FEW YEARS
SINCE I HAD MET
SENSEI, HE HAD
ONLY GONE A TRIP
ONCE DURING THAT
ONE TRIP TO
KANAZAWA.



AHA, IF I
HAD JUST
HAD THIS
MONEY

AT
THAT
TIME,

I
THOU-
GHT,



AND WHEN I
GOT QUITE A
LARGE SUM
OF MONEY
FROM THE
ROYALTIES
DEPOSITED
INTO MY BANK
ACCOUNT,



EVEN TO
ITALY OR
SPAIN.

I COULD
HAVE
TAKEN HIM
ANYWHERE.

THEN
WHILE
SENSEI
WAS STILL
HEALTHY,



BUT
STILL,

IT
MAKES
ME
WONDER

IT
WORKED OUT
BECAUSE
I WROTE
ABOUT
HAVING A
CHILD...

NO...

WOULD
I HAVE
MADE IT IN
TIME...?

IF I HAD
STARTED
DRAWING
MANGA
MUCH
SOONER...

DO I
GUESS
THAT
WOULDN'T
HAVE
MATTERED

AS THE
POINT I
WAS BACK
THEN?

JUST
HOW MUCH
PRECIOUS
TIME DID I
WASTE

OVER THE
COURSE
OF THOSE
FOUR
BLANK
YEARS,

WHEN I WAS
JUST SLACKING
OFF DURING
COLLEGE
INSTEAD OF
DRAWING OR
WRITING
MANGA

WOULDN'T I
HAVE MADE
IT IN TIME?

SO IF I
HAD JUST
WORKED
HARD AT
DRAWING
MANGA
FROM
MY FIRST
YEAR IN
COLLEGE,

BUT
IT'S NOT
UNUSUAL IN
THE MANGA
WORLD TO
DEBUT AS A
TEENAGER,

WHEN I READ
INTERVIEWS OF
FAMOUS PEOPLE,
THEY OFTEN
SAY THAT IT'S
NECESSARY TO
TAKE BREAKS,





DRAW.



JUST
WHAT DID
I LEARN
FROM
SENSEI?



DRAW!!

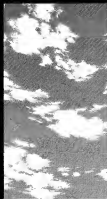
DRAW,

HAVA-
SH.



IT'S
OKAY,

YOU
CAN
DO IT.



EVEN
THOUGH
SENSEI
SHOULD
HAVE
ALWAYS
BEEN
TEACHING
US THAT,



PEOPLE
WHO DRAW
DON'T NEED
TO TAKE
BREAKS.



TIME
FLIES
WHEN
YOU'RE
HAVING
FUN.



AND I
ONCE AGAIN
COMPLETELY
FELL BACK INTO
MY FUN AND
FULFILLING
DAILY LIFE.

I WENT BACK
TO OSABA
RIGHT AFTER
THE BION
FESTIVAL
WAS OVER.



AFTER
I FELT
RELIEVED
BY SEEING
SENSEI UP
AND ABOUT,

THAT
SUMMER.



HE FOUND IT
DIFFERENT
FROM THE
VILLAGE HE
HAD LEFT.



WHEN
HE WENT
BACK
TO HIS
VILLAGE.



JUST
LIKE WHEN
ORASHIMA
TAKEN HAD
FUN AT THE
DRAGON
GOD'S
PALACE.





I
COULDN'T
MOVE FOR
A LITTLE
WHILE.

STUNNED
AS IF MY
HEAD HAD
BEEN HIT
BY A BAT,



AND I HEARD
THAT HIS LAST
GENERATION
OF STUDENTS
FROM THE
ART CLASS
WERE THERE
FOR HIM.



BY THAT TIME,
SENDEI'S
FAMILY WAS
ALREADY
LEAVING
AFTER HIM.





AND
WHILE THAT
SUPERMAN
WAS STRUCK
BY VIOLENT
COUGHING
FITS,

HE
PAINTED



THE
ENTIRE
TIME.



WHAT
IS TIME?



GET
ON!!!

WAYA-
GAMI!



BUT
SENSUI
KEPT
DRAWING.



AND
EVERYTHING
HAD CHANGED
FROM BACK
THEN.



BEFORE I
KNEW IT,
SEVEN
YEARS HAD
PASSED BY.

WERE A
LONG OR
A SHORT
PERIOD
OF TIME.



I NO
LONGER
KNOW
WHETHER
THOSE
SEVEN
YEARS



FOR ME
AT THAT
TIME, AS A
RESULT,







I GONNA
GO BACK
HOME
FOR NOW!!

I'LL
COME BY
AFTER,
OKAY?



ALL
RIGHT

YOU
SURE
ARE
GOING
THROUGH
A LOT,
TOO.

SO I HAVE
TO HEAD
HOMER "SOON"
ANYWAY AND
FOR IT...

I THOUGHT
I SENT THE
DRAFT...OF
THE MANGA
I'VE BEEN
WORKING
ON, BUT IT
DIDN'T GO
THROUGH.

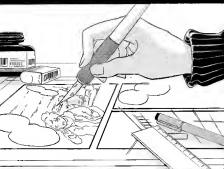


SORRY
IT

I'LL
SEE
YOU
LATER!!

OKAY!

DRIVE
SAFE!



I CAN'T CLEARLY
REMEMBER
WHAT HAPPENED
AT THAT TIME.



BUT I
STILL CAN'T
REMEMBER
IT CLEARLY...

I THINK
IT WAS
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS...

HAH...



THAT
WOULD
BE...

I NEVER
THOUGHT...



AND MY
DAYS OF
BEING
SHANGHAIED
WITH BEINGLA
BEGAN.

IN THE END,
I WENT
BACK TO
OSAKA
RIGHT AWAY
AGAIN.



AFTER
ALL...



SO IF
I CAN'T
REMEMBER,
I'M SURE
THAT
MEANS...

IT
HAPPENED
OVER TEN
YEARS
AGO...



THAT WE
DIDN'T
TALK
ABOUT
ANYTHING
IMPORTANT...



HAVING BECOME
A MANGA AUTHOR,
I WAS TOTALLY
DIFFERENT
COMPARED TO
BACK THEN.



AND IF THEY
GIVE A GOOD
RECEPTION, I
COULD GET TO
DRAW FOR
YOUR MAGAZINE...

AND I
MIGHT
EVEN
GET TO
DO A
SERIES
...

Obviously
without
expectations

THIS IS MY FIRST
OFFER TO DRAW
FOR ANOTHER
MAGAZINE, SO I
HAVE TO SUBMIT
SOMETHING
I WON'T BE
EMBARRASSED
ABOUT!!

ALL
RIGHT, AT
ANY RATE,
I HAVE TO
KEEP IT
IT!!

I JUST LAD
AROUND IN
MY CHEAP
APARTMENT
EVERY DAY
NOT DRAWING
ANYTHING.

WHEN I
WAS IN
COLLEGE,

BACK
THEN.

NOW THAT
I WAS THE
MANGA AUTHOR
I HAD YEARNED
TO BE, I
WORKED HARD
AT DRAWING
WHAT I WANTED
TO DRAW.

BUT IT WAS
DIFFERENT
NOW.

I ALWAYS
FORGOT
IT.

EVEN
THOUGH
I KNEW
IT WAS
SERIOUS.

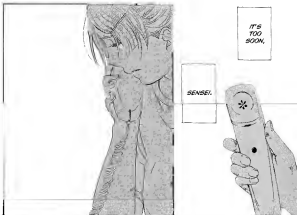
WHEN
THE
PHONE
RANG,













THINGS JUST
DON'T GO LIKE
IN A MOVIE OR A
TV DRAMA FOR
SENSEI AND I.





*YOU
CAN'T
GO YET.*



*I HAVEN'T
HEARD YOUR
LAST WORDS,
SENSEI.*



BUT ONLY
WITHOUT
HAVING
CRIED EVEN
ONCE SINCE
I GOT THAT
CALL.

I DON'T
KNOW IF IT
WAS BECAUSE
GENGEI'S
DEATH JUST
HADN'T
SUNK IN OR
SOMETHING.

AND
WENT
BACK TO
MYZAKI.

I JUMPED
ON A PLANE
RIGHT AWAY
FROM ITAMI
AIRPORT.



IN A WAY, I GUESS
YOU COULD SAY THAT
GENGEI'S DEATH HADN'T
SUNK IN FOR ANYONE,
MYSELF INCLUDED.

NONE
OF THE
STUDENTS
WERE
CRYING,
EITHER.

I'M
GETTING
BY
SOMEHOW
OR OTHER!

HOW'S
COLLEGE
BEEN?

I HAVEN'T
SEEN YOU
FOR AGES!
HOW HAVE
YOU BEEN?

EVERYONE
JUST
TALKED
NORMALLY.







AND EVERYONE
SEEMED TO BE
SO BUSY WITH
THE FUNERAL
THAT NONE OF
US HAD TIME
TO GRY.

EVEN AFTER
SEEING
SENSEI'S
FACE, I STILL
DIDN'T CRY,

...THANK
GOOD-
NESS...

HE DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
HE'S IN
ANY PAIN...





ABOUT
THAT
HOB-
TADU-
ALUS
BET!!

HEY!!
GENSEI!
WANTED
TO SEE
YOU



SLEEP?

Your
last
year
looked
good
MA-
CHAN!!



AT
THAT
TIME...

HEH!!

THE
ONLY
ONE
WHO
CALL
ME
THAT
IS—

GENSEI!!



HEH!!

REALLY?
I DON'T
KNOW
THAT!

AND
HOBKA-
GENSEI
CAME
TO
SEE IT.

I DO
SOMETHING
LIKE A GROUP
EXHIBITION
WITH
A FRIEND
AT THE GALLERY
AROUND HERE
THE OTHER DAY,

At this
time, he
had come
back to
Miyazaki
from Spain



HEH!!

AL

I SEE.

A
LITTLE
BIT
BEFORE
HE DIED.

JUST
RECENTLY

YEAH,
I SAW
HIM



HEH!!

IT'S
JUST
WHAT
YOU'D
EXPECT,
I suppose...

PRETTY
MUCH

YEAH

HEH!!

BUT IF
ANYONE
COULD
DO
THAT, IT'D
BE GENSEI!

I'M SURPRISED
HE HAD THE
STAMPA TO GO
SEE IT ABOUT
BEFORE HE
DIED.

THAT
WAS
JUST
THE
OTHER
DAY...?

AND THE
SERVICE AT THE
CREMATORY
WAS MAINLY
MADE UP OF HIS
FAMILY, SO I
DIDN'T GO.

I WAS
SO BUSY
WITH THE
RECEPTION
DESK THAT I
HARDLY HAD
A CHANCE TO
GO INTO THE
FUNERAL
HALL.

AND THERE WERE
CUMULONIMBUS
CLOUDS THAT
YOU OFTEN SEE
IN NAGASAKI'S
BLUE SKY.

THE
WEATHER
WAS
REALLY
GOOD
THAT DAY.

I JUST GAZED
UP AT THE
CUMULONIMBUS
CLOUDS AS
THEY SILENTLY
ROSE UP IN
THE BRIGHT
BLUE SKY.

I ALSO
DIDN'T
LISTEN
TO THE
EULOGIES.

AND I
DIDN'T SEE
THE SMOKE
RISE OUT
OF THE
CREMATORY'S
CHIMNEY,
EITHER.



SENSEI'S
FUNERAL
WAS OVER
IN THE BLINK
OF AN EYE.

Cherry
Cherry
Cherry
Cherry









HEAT
SO YOU'RE
HERE FOR THE
FUNERAL?
YES.



TO TELL
ME THAT
SERVING
DISH...



HA... MY
PARENTS
CALLED
ME YESTER-
DAY...

HA... WHAT?
HOW ARE YOU
HERE?
And what's
with that
hat?



YOU'RE
ISHIZAKI
FROM
BACK
THEN...!!
YES



AND AFTER
A 20 HOUR
RIDE... I FINALLY
ARRIVED HERE
JUST A LITTLE
WHILE AGO.

I JUMPED
ON A NIGHT
TRAIN...

WELL, I'M
GOING TO A
COLLEGE IN
SHIMOKA
RIGHT NOW...
BUT RIGHT
AFTER MY
PARENTS
CALLED ME
YESTERDAY...



IT'S
ALREADY
OVER...

THEN
YOU'RE
PRETTY
LATE...

HA

GOOD
POINT



And
if you
use the
Sagami
student
discount
a plane
ticket is
really
cheap

BESIDES, IT'D
ACTUALLY COST
YOU MORE MONEY
TO CHANGE TRAINS
COMPARED TO A
PLANE TICKET.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE
ANY MONEY, YOU GET AN
ALLOWANCE FROM YOUR
PARENTS SINCE YOU'RE
IN COLLEGE AT ANY
RATE, SO YOU COULD
HAVE GOTTEN YOUR
PARENTS TO PAY FOR
THE PLANE TICKET
AND MADE IT HERE
IN TWO HOURS.

BUT I
REALLY
AM FLAT
BROKE.

What's
with this
hat?
It's so
old-fashioned.



WELL, IT'S
JUST THAT
I REALLY
DON'T HAVE
ANY MONEY.

...YOU
SHOULD
HAVE JUST
JUMPED ON
A PLANE.

YOU WOULD
HAVE BEEN
HERE IN
NO TIME







MOST OF THE PEOPLE THERE HAD BEEN STUDENTS AT THE CLASS UNTIL RELATIVELY RECENTLY, AND THERE WERE A LOT OF KIDS I HAD TAUGHT, TOO.

ON THAT NIGHT AFTER THE FUNERAL, I THINK THERE WERE ABOUT 20 OF US Huddled TOGETHER IN THE CLASS.











When people from Myosha drink
drinks, that all have their all end up.







AND THEN
SENSEI
CAME IN A
WHEELCHAIR



AMH, I
KNOW WHAT
YOU MEAN.
I WENT
THROUGH
THE SAME
THING



SO I'VE
BEEN IN A
SLUMP FOR
A LONG
TIME NOW,
I SUSSE...



EVEN THOUGH
I WENT TO
COLLEGE AND
THEN STUDIED
ABROAD IN SPAIN,
THERE'S NOTHING
AT ALL I WANT
TO DRINK



I HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE
TO DRINK
ANYTHING
LATELY...



SO HE
COULDN'T
REALLY TALK
AT ALL...



IT REALLY
WAS RIGHT
BEFORE HE
DIED,



IT'S
JUST... BUT...



HE WATCHED
MY LIVE
PAINTING
SESSION...
IN THAT
WHEELCHAIR,



SENSEI,



AND IN THE
FIRST PLACE,
I HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE
TO DRINK
ANYTHING
LATELY,
EITHER.



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
I SHOULD
DRINK,



COULDN'T
DRINK
ANYTHING
AT ALL.



AND
SO...



I JUST



WITH SENSEI
LIKE THAT,
AND WITH
THE OTHER
GUESTS
WATCHING.







MAA-CHAN
HAD HEARD
SENSEI'S
LAST WORDS.



WE ALL
CRIED FOR
THE FIRST
TIME THAT
DAY.



THAT WE
HAD HEARD
HUNDREDS AND
THOUSANDS
OF TIMES
BEFORE.



THOSE
WERE THE
SAME
WORDS AS
ALWAYS

SENSEI,



AND
THAT KID
IDLY SAT
NEARBY.



ALL OF US
GROGGED
TOGETHER.





WHY DID
YOU DIE?

DON'T
LEAVE
EVERYONE
BEHIND.

DON'T
LEAVE ME
BEHIND.



DON'T GO,
SENSEI.

PLEASE.



ALL OF US
ARE JUST
WORTHLESS.

WE'RE
HOPELESS
WITHOUT
YOU.

KA
KU
KAKU

SHIKAJIKA

SHIKAJIKA
34







THAT'S
THE END OF
THE STORY
BETWEEN
SENSEI AND I





I'M
DRAWING
MANGA
NOW.



WITH
SENSEI
GONE.



BUT I'M
SOMETIMES
REMIND
ED OF HIM.



I USUALLY
DON'T
THINK
ABOUT
SENSEI
ALL THAT
MUCH.



UNDER
PRESSURE
EVERY DAY
FROM MY
WORK AND
RAISING
MY SON.



AND WHEN I GO TO A LOCAL BAR RIGHT AFTER MEETING A DEADLINE,



I THINK ABOUT HIM WHEN I ORDER A BOTTLE OF BEER.



THERE'S A RICH FAMILY WHO LIVES NEARBY WHERE I LIVE.





AROUND THAT
TIME, MY EDITOR
SWITCHED FROM
U-OKA-SAN
TO A YOUNG
WOMAN NAMED
M-SANA-SAN.

I ENDED UP
MOVING FROM
OSAKA TO
TOKYO.

A LITTLE
WHILE
AFTER
SENDEI
PASSED
AWAY,

I'LL TAKE
THE STORY
BACK TO
AROUND
DOO.



WHenever M-SUNA-SUN
CAME TO OSAKA
FOR A BUSINESS
MEETING, THE
THREE OF US
WOULD GO OUT
FOR DRINKS.

SHE WAS
CLOSE TO
OUR AGE,
SO WE
GOT
ALONG
RIGHT
AWAY.

AND SHE
ALSO ACTED
AS TAKUMI
ISHIDA-BENKEI'S
EDITOR AT THE
BANKING.

SHE WAS
BEAUTIFUL,
SMART,
REALLY
RELIABLE.

I miss you,
M-SUNA-SUN.

SO PLEASE
WORK HARD IN
AN ENVIRONMENT
WHERE WE CAN
MEET AT ANY
TIME IN TOKYO.

THIS IS
CRUNCH TIME
FOR THE
BOTH OF
YOU.

Uh...

PLEASE JUST
COME BACK
WITH ME
TO TOKYO
JULY.

GRASS,
YOU TWO.

I ACTED
AS A LURE
IN THE EDITING
DEPARTMENT'S
"PLAN TO INVITE
HIGASHIMURA
AND
ISHIDA TO TOKYO AS
A SET" BECAUSE
ISHIDA-SAN WAS
SLOW TO ACT,
SO I ENDED UP
MOVING TO TOKYO
BEFORE HER.

あーあーあー

AND I CAN
SOMEHOW OR
OTHER MEET
MY DEADLINES
BECAUSE MY
MOM MAKES ME
DELICIOUS
FOOD...

I'VE
BROUNG
UP IN
THAT
HOUSE
SINCE
I WAS
BORN...

WELL...
THAT'D BE
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR ME..

BUT
YOU'LL FEEL
DISGUSTED IF
YOU'RE WITH
HIGASHIMURA-
SAN, RIGHT?

I FULLY
UNDERSTAND
HOW DIFFICULT
IT IS FOR YOU
TO LIVE BY
YOURSELF,
ISHIDA-SAN.

I've
always
loved
my mom's
meatballs.



FROM THAT
POINT ON
IS A STORY
YOU'VE
OFTEN
HEARD
BEFORE.

I'LL KEEP
SUPPORTING
YOU UNTIL YOU
REACH THE
TOP, AKI-CHAN.

SO DON'T WORRY
ABOUT ME AND
JUST WORK
HARD IN TOKYO.

RIGHT
NOW IS A
CRUCIAL
MOMENT
FOR YOU.

AND BEFORE
I KNEW IT,
I WASN'T
NEGLECTING
NAGAMURA-KUN.

I MET
A LOT
OF NEW
PEOPLE.

I WAS
HAVING FUN
WITH MY
WORK AND
GOING OUT
FOR DRINKS
WITH MY
EDITOR.

WHEN I
MOVED TO
TOKYO, I
STARTED
HAVING
FUN.

AND GOT
DIVORCED
ALL TOO
SOON.

AND IN THE
BLINK OF AN
EYE, I GOT
MARRIED,
GAVE BIRTH,

HAVING
GONE OFF
THE DEEP
END, I
QUICKLY
FOUND
MYSELF
A NEW
BOYFRIEND.

I DON'T
THINK
ABOUT IT,
I WAS ALSO
CLIFFERING
FROM
MATERNITY
NEEDED

I WAS
SLEEPING
SO MUCH
MY
SON, CRYING
EVERY NIGHT.

I CRIED
EVERY
SINGLE
DAY,

AND
CRIED
WHILE
WORKING
ON MY
DRAFTS.

THE PART
OF MY LIFE
WHEN I
MY ROCK
BOTTOM
WAS RIGHT
AROUND
THAT TIME.

THANKS
TO GENSEI
DRILLING
ME SO
MUCH BACK
THEN,

IN THE
END,



BUT THERE
IS NO OTHER
TIME IN MY
LIFE THAT I
WAS SAVED
MORE BY
DRAWING
THAN BACK
THEN.

EVEN WHEN
GOING THROUGH
SOMETHING
DIFFICULT, AS
LONG AS I
DREW, I COULD
SOMEHOW OR
OTHER SUPPORT
MYSELF.

AND BEFORE
I KNEW IT,
IT BECAME
ROUTINE.

DRAWING
BECAME
INGRAINED
IN MY
BODY.



BUT THIS
WORLD ISN'T
JUST A PIECE
OF CAKE,
EITHER.

BEFORE
I STARTED
WORKING AS A
PROFESSIONAL,
I HAD THOUGHT
MANGA WAS
EASY COMPARED
TO PAINTING.

I UNDERSTOOD
THAT FOR THE
FIRST TIME
WHEN I WAS
AT ROCK
BOTTOM.

AND YOU
HAVE TO
STEADILY
FILL IN
THE WHITE
SPACES,

EVEN IF IT'S
BOTHERSOME,
YOU HAVE TO
JUST DRAW
A LOT AT
ANY RATE,

AND DRAW
DOZENS
AND
HUNDREDS
OF PEOPLE
EVERY
CHAPTER.

DRAW
IN THE
SCENERY,

YOU HAVE
TO DRAW
THE SAME
FACE A
BUNCH OF
TIMES ON
A SINGLE
PAGE.

FOR
STARTERS,
WHEN IT
COMES TO
MANGA,



EVEN
THROUGH
DIFFICULT
TIMES,

I CAN
DRAW.

EVEN
IF IT'S
BOTHER-
SOME,

BUT
THANKS
TO THOSE
DAYS.





OR HAVE
A FEVER,

OR EVEN
WHEN I
GET BACK,



OR WHEN
I'M SAD,



OR TELL
ME MY ART
SLICKS,

OR EVEN IF
PEOPLE SAY
MY MANGA
ISN'T
INTERESTING,



OR
IRRITATED,

OR WHEN I'M
ANNOYED BY
SOMETHING,



OR EVEN
IF MY
VOLUMES
DON'T
SELL,



OR EVEN
IF SURVEY
RESULTS
COME BACK
BAD,





THEY'RE JUST
LETTERS THAT
ONLY SHOW UP
INSIDE THAT
SCREEN, SO I
DON'T CARE ONE
BIT ABOUT THEM.



EVEN IF
SOMEONE
SAID THAT MY
MIND'S SUCKS
INSIDE THAT
RECTANGULAR
SCREEN,



TO ME, I CAN
ONLY HEAR
THAT VOICE.









SHE FOUND
HERSELF A
WONDERFUL
HUSBAND,
AND SHE
BECAME
A MOM
RECENTLY.

ABOUT
SATOU-SAN,
ALSO KNOWN
AS REMON
HISANA-
CHAN.



AS FOR MY
FRIENDS FROM
COLLEGE, I
COULD SEE
THEM ANYTIME
IF I GO TO
KANAZAWA.



Call
me!

I HAVEN'T
SEEN HIM
RECENTLY,
BUT I
WONDER
IF HE'S
DOING ALL
RIGHT.

I
WONDER
WHAT
UMA-CHAN
IS DOING
RIGHT
NOW.



MIYAMOTO AND
BOTOU RECENTLY
CAME TO TOKYO TO
HANG OUT, AND
THE THREE OF
US WENT TO AN
IMPRESSIONISM
-FEST, TOO.

THAT WAS YEARS
AGO AND AT 40.

NAKATA-
SENSEI!
FROM MY
HIGH SCHOOL
ART CLUB
IS STILL
DOING WELL,
AND WE
SOMETIMES
TALK OVER
THE PHONE.

HE
QUITE
THE BIG
SHOT
NOW.

MY
FIRST
EDITOR
U-OKA-SAN

HIS
EDITOR!
HOW OLD HE
WAS, HE'S
GOT TO
BE AN
EXPERIENCED
EDITOR.



AHN,
COME TO
THINK OF
IT, ABOUT
THAT GUY,



ALL OF
THEM ARE
WELL INTO
ADULTHOOD
BY NOW.

I
WONDER IF
THE OTHER
STUDENTS
ARE DOING
WELL.

ITOU-SAN
ALSO TOLD ME
IN AN EMAIL,
QUITE A
WHILE AGO
THAT SHE HAD
A CHILD.



I
KNOW
IT...

I GUESS
THAT EMAIL
CAME FROM A
WILE AWAY.

BUT
HE TOLD
ME THAT
IN THE
END, HE
COULDN'T
DRINK
MANGA.

HE SENT
ME AN
EMAIL,

ABOUT SIX
MONTHS OR
SO AFTER
SENSEI'S
FUNERAL,



IF YOU HADN'T
STOPPED GOING
TO THE CLASS
AT THAT TIME
AND INSTEAD
LEARNED A LOT
MORE FROM
SENSEI,

IF YOU
HAD DRUNK
MANGA
GETTING
BISHED
WITH THAT
SABROO SWORD,



BUT I FULLY
UNDERSTAND
YOUR FEELINGS
OF NOT BEING
ABLE TO DRINK.





I GUESS IT'S
OUTDATED TO
BUY STUFF
LIKE THAT.

YEAH,
RIGHT.

YOU MIGHT
HAVE ENDED UP
AS SOMEONE
WHO COULD
DRINK.



OR
SOMETHING
ALONG
AND NOT-
BLOODED

I GUESS
STUFF
LIKE
"WATER"
THERE'S
A HELL,
THERE'S
A WAY.

IS
ALREADY
OLD-
FASHIONED.





SENSE,



*THAT
I HAD
FORGOTTEN.*

*I
REMEMBERED
SO MANY
THINGS!*



*AFTER I
STARTED
DRAWING
THIS
MANGA,*



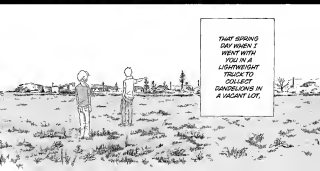
*LIKE THE
DAY WHEN I
FIRST MET
YOU,*



THE DAY
WHEN YOU
CARRIED ME
TO THE BUS
STOP.



WHEN
YOU CALLED
THAT NIGHT
DURING THE
ENTRANCE
EXAM IN
KANAZAWA.



THAT SPRING
DAY WHEN I
WENT WITH
YOU IN A
LIGHTWEIGHT
TRUCK TO
COLLECT
GANDERIONS IN
A VACANT LOT.



THAT SUMMER
DAY WHEN
YOU CAME
TO TELL ME
OFF AFTER I
WASN'T ABLE
TO DRAW
ANYTHING,

WHEN
YOU CAME
TO HANG
OUT AT MY
APARTMENT IN
KANAZAWA,



AND THE DAY
YOU DIED,
SENSEI.

SELFISH,

HEADSTRONG,

CONCERNED,

WHO WAS
EGOTISTICAL,

BACK
THEN, I
REALLY
WAS AN
IDiot.

AND
DISHONEST,

UNFAIR,

HEARTLESS,

GREEDY,

AND
THAT'S
WHY I
LOVED
YOU,
SENSEI.



BECAUSE I
CAN'T BE
LIKE YOU.

BECAUSE
YOU WERE
TOTALLY
DIFFERENT
FROM ME.

BECAUSE YOU
AND I WERE
DIFFERENT.

I'VE
NEVER
MET
ANOTHER
PERSON
LIKE YOU.

EVEN
THOUGH
I'M GOING
TO BE 40
THIS YEAR,

I DON'T
KNOW
ANYONE
LIKE YOU,
GENGEL.



I WANTED
YOU TO
TRAIN
GOCCHAN.



I WANTED
TO SHOW
GOCCHAN
TO YOU.



I'M
GOING
TO KEEP
DRAWING
FROM
NOW ON.

I
WON'T
GIVE
UP.

BUT
I'M GOING
TO WORK
HARD.



BUT THERE'S
NOTHING I CAN
DO EVEN IF I
BUY SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.



I MEAN,
ALL I CAN
DO IS DRAW.



SO EVEN
IF I'M BAD
AT IT OR
WHATEVER,
ALL I CAN
DO IS DRAW.



ALL PEOPLE
WHO DRINK
WERE BORN
TO DO THAT.



THAT'S
WHAT I WAS
BORN TO DO,
AFTER ALL.



UNTIL MY
DEATH.



THE
WHOLE
TIME



HEY,
SENSEI,



SENSEI?

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,

SO
YOU CAN
HEAR MY
VOICE TOO,
RIGHT?

I CAN
HEAR
YOUR
VOICE.

CAN YOU
HEAR MY
VOICE ALL
THE WAY IN
HEAVEN?

MY
TEACHER.



I didn't take any photos when I was in high school, but I had a photography class in college, so I remember taking a lot of photos then. I get the feeling that they made me buy an expensive SLR camera for it.

I took out my college photos from a cardboard box in a closet and organized them.

When I went back to Miyazaki to visit my parents for New Year's Day in 2015, right before I drew this manga's final chapter.



All in all in the of eating breakfast



The studio

This
really is
the only
one.

And so,
this is
the one
photo
that I
finally
found
in that
pile.

But
there's a
ridiculous
amount
of photos
where I'm
pooning
around

Well,
I wasn't
really
painting
anything
back
then, so
there's
nothing
I can do
about
that.

However,
as I
expected,
there
aren't
that many
photos
of me
painting.
(haha)



And
also,

and a ton of
photos of
Kanazawa's
scenery

as well
as a
bunch of
photos of
my
friends
from
college,

There
are also
photos of
events I
depicted in
"Kakukaku
Shuujiku".

When
we
made
this
page



Staying
huddled
together
during the
school
festival

↓ Snowboarding



Karaoke ←



After I went
back to Tokyo
and finished
drawing the final
chapter, I put
that photo under
the transparent
desk mat at my
work desk next
to a portrait of
me that Gaochen
drew for me, and
then I started
on the draft for
another manga.

In the
photo,
Sensei is
wearing
my hat
and
laughing
along
for
some
reason.

I think
it was
taken
when
I went
back to
Miyazaki
over
summer
vacation
during
college.

I miraculously
found just
one photo
of Sensei.

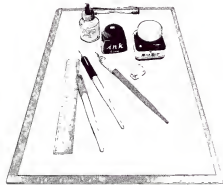


The
end

かくかくしかじか

東村アキコ

5



かくかくしかじか

5

東村アキコ

集英社

集英社

集英社

かくかくしかじか

東村アキコ

5



かくかくしかじか 5

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かくかくしかじか

東村アキコ

まんがの仕事に邁進する明子。
余命四か月を宣告された
甘高先生が
明子に伝えたかったのは！

まんが家・東村アキコの
ドラマチック・メモリーズ
万感胸に迫る
最終巻！

HEY
SENSEI,
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?